



West Otago News

A Newsletter from the Clutha District Council - December 2011

Clutha District Council

1 Rosebank Terrace
PO Box 25, Balclutha 9240
Phone: 03 419 0200
www.cluthadc.govt.nz

Tapanui Service Centre, Information Centre & Library

Suffolk Street, Tapanui
Phone: 03 204 8306
Fax: 03 204 8302
Hours: Mon - Fri: 8.30am - 5pm
(The library is open until 6pm on
Fridays)

Water Services News

Foundation works have been completed and now awaiting delivery of the new 1 million litre reservoir tank for Tapanui. This will provide a much better security of supply for the township. The new reservoir tank follows completion of the major treatment upgrade for the Tapanui supply.

Meanwhile, the new Biofiltration sewage treatment plant at Tapanui is operational. The new system is built to comply with stricter effluent quality conditions in the newly issued discharge consents.

Online Service Requests

Did you know that if you have a request for service or would like to report any problems with Council services that this can be done online? By visiting Council's website at www.cluthadc.govt.nz, requests can be made on a diverse range of issues from potholes in the road to abandoned vehicles. Visit the 'Contact Us' section of our website to fill in the online request for service form, so your query can be logged and passed onto the appropriate contractor/staff member for response. Please remember for urgent matters to call 0800 801 350 at any time, so that the matter can be dealt with immediately.



Message from the Community Board Chair

The Community Board has concluded another year with the final meeting held on Wednesday 16 November.

On behalf of the Community Board, I wish to express thanks to those people who tidied up the trees broken in the recent snow fall. Here's hoping for some improved weather over the summer months.

Thanks also to the Year 10 students at Blue Mountain College and the West Otago Lions Club who helped with a rubbish collection last week. I would like to acknowledge their willingness to do this.

There has been some concern raised recently about the effectiveness of pest plant spraying in the West Otago area. This type of spraying is intended to control gorse, broom, and a small number of other pest plants and tree varieties.

These concerns have been passed onto the contractor, so we expect to see an improvement in the near future.

I wish you all a safe and restful Christmas holiday.

**Barbara Hanna, West Otago
Community Board Chairwoman**

Civil Defence staff meet with emergency services

Clutha District Council Civil Defence staff recently met with emergency services members in Tapanui to get the ball rolling on updating civil defence operating procedures for West Otago area.

A Civil Defence emergency is only declared when emergency services feel the situation is beyond their resources. If this happens, the Civil Defence organisation takes over to co-ordinate the response under the direction of a Civil Defence Controller, and local Civil Defence centres (such as Tapanui) are activated.

There is no vast full-time Civil Defence force standing by. Council's own staff and other material resources form a basis, and are supported in a Civil Defence emergency by locally available resources of emergency services, government departments, by

voluntary organisations in the community, and by individual volunteers.

If you would like to find out more information about Civil Defence, including how to prepare you and your family for the possibility of a natural disaster, go online to www.cluthadc.govt.nz, or call the main Council office on 0800 801 350 during business hours.

Meanwhile, Council and the Community Board are working towards sourcing a PTO generator for the West Otago Community Centre. The generator would be used as a backup power supply in the event of a Civil Defence emergency or similar.

Council will trial a generator for a period of 12-18 months to evaluate its benefits and likely costs.

Hey Kids - Libraries Summer Reading Programme!



Clutha District Libraries' summer reading programme is on again this year,

Thanks to sponsorship from The Trusts Community Foundation, all Clutha District libraries are again offering the free, incentive based reading programme these summer holidays. Each child sets their own reading target, with incentives along the way and a book prize for those who reach their reading goals.

The reading programme is being run under the theme of 'Be a Legend - Read!' this summer. The idea is to encourage all Year

1 to Year 8 children to keep reading while they're off school these summer holidays, and to have some fun along the way.

Registrations open at Tapanui Library on Monday 5 December and close Friday 23 December.

